

THE WILMINGTON JOURNAL

WILMINGTON, N. C.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 1868.

FOR PRESIDENT:
HORATIO SEYMOUR,
OF NEW YORK.

FOR VICE-PRESIDENT:
GEN. FRANK P. BLAIR,
OF MISSOURI.

Second Congressional District.

The Convention to nominate a candidate for Congress for the Second District assembled in Newbern on Tuesday, September 8th. The counties of Carteret, Craven, Jones, Lenoir and Pitt were represented. As not one-half of the counties were represented, a committee was appointed to suggest the proper action for the Convention, which reported the following resolutions:

Resolved, By the counties of Carteret, Craven, Jones, Lenoir, and Pitt, in Convention assembled at Newbern, that a District Convention for the purpose of nominating a candidate for Congress be held at Newbern, at eleven o'clock, at the Seymour and Blair Club House, on the 17th day of September inst., and that all the counties in the District are hereby requested to send Delegates.

These resolutions were adopted and the Convention adjourned. We trust our friends in the Second District will respond to this invitation from a portion of the counties. The enthusiasm which marked the State Convention, and that which called together the great gathering in Fayetteville on Wednesday, we hope will not be lost on our friends in the Second District. No honest effort must be spared to carry North Carolina for SEYMOUR and BLAIR. Upon the result in this State possibly the success of the campaign may rest. We are too much interested—vitaly interested—in success to bring upon our cause defeat by our own lethargy.

Georgia Legislature Who Turned Out the Negroes!

Radical papers are attempting to make good by falsehoods what they were unable to substantiate by proofs, that the Democrats are responsible for the expulsion of the negroes from the Georgia Legislature. What are the facts of the case?

First: Are negroes eligible to office in Georgia, and if not, what party is responsible for their disfranchisement?

Second: Did the white Radicals vote to retain them in office?

If the Constitution of that State really confers upon colored persons the right to hold office, although the Democrats did all they could to defeat its adoption, they would be the last to deprive them of any privilege granted by the Constitution. No attempt would be made to curtail any right granted by the fundamental law of the State to the colored race, so long as it remained in force. But on the other hand, if it does not confer on them the right to hold office, both Democratic and Radical members of the Legislature, under their oaths to support the Constitution, were bound to vote for the expulsion of the negro members. And such was really the case, as the sequel will show.

We learn from a Georgia exchange that the original draft of the Constitution, as reported from the committee, contained the following section in the article on Elections: (And it must be remembered that the Convention which adopted the Constitution was composed entirely of Radical members.)

Sec. 10. All qualified electors, and none other, shall be eligible to any office in this State, unless disqualified by the Constitution of this State, or by the Constitution of the United States.

There could be no doubt that this article conferred upon negroes the right to hold office, and is almost identical with a similar section in the present Constitution of North Carolina, which renders colored persons eligible to office in this State. This section was stricken out by a vote of 126 yeas to 12 nays—the yeas including nearly every white Radical in the Convention. The man who made the motion to strike out and many of his supporters in that body are to-day among the leading Radical politicians in the State. The reason for this action is thus explained. In Upper Georgia the white population is largely in the ascendancy, and while they were much pleased with the "relief" measures of the Convention, were fearful of the negro supremacy in the lower portions of the State. To catch this vote, therefore, they quitted their fears of negro supremacy by refusing to confer upon that race the right to hold office. And shortly after the adjournment of the Convention ex-Gov. Brown proclaimed this fact in the first speech he made in the interests of the Radicals in North Georgia. By this very argument the people of those counties were induced to vote the Radical ticket, and elect Radicals to the Legislature. And how did these members vote upon this question?

The answer to this inquiry brings us to the second branch of our discussion—how did the white Radicals in the Legislature vote? Independent of the twenty-five expelled colored members, there were sixty odd white Radicals, for ex-Governor Brown received in the House ninety-one votes for United States Senator, which would go to show there must be sixty-six white Radicals in that body. Of these we know but twenty-three voted to retain the negroes in office, for the vote was eighty for expulsion and twenty-three against. It follows that upwards of two-thirds of the white Radicals either voted that the negroes were not eligible, or failed to vote at all. Such is the state of the case, and Radicals cannot honestly deny their responsibility in the premises.

The Literary Pastime.

Number six of this new candidate for public favor has been received. We congratulate the proprietor at the superior literary merits of his paper. In the next issue a patriotic and biographical sketch of the late Hon. D. L. SWAIN is promised. This is a purely Southern enterprise, and deserves the patronage of our people upon its own merits as well. Terms three dollars a year. Address A. F. Crutcher, Richmond, Va.

Col. A. McKoy.

We hail with pleasure the nomination of this able and eloquent son of Sampson County for Congress in this District. It is a compliment well merited. Colonel McKoy has represented his county in the Legislature and in the Constitutional Convention of 1865, with credit and honor. An able debater, an eloquent speaker, a lawyer of distinction and large practice, an upright citizen, and an active, industrious laborer in the ranks of Conservatism, his selection as a leader in this important contest is as well advised as it will prove satisfactory to the people of the District.

We presume Colonel McKoy will enter at an early day into a thorough canvass of the District, and we feel well assured that, with Captain Dobson, the District Elector, the party will have champions well worthy its noble cause. In the selection of both these gentlemen the people of the District have reason to congratulate themselves.

It Means Mischief.

We learn through the Raleigh Standard that "Justices of the Peace in Rowan, New Hanover and Rockingham counties, in accordance with law, have called on the Governor to detail some militia in those counties to 'preserve the peace and enforce the laws.'" Of Rowan and Rockingham we are not prepared to speak, but so far as New Hanover is concerned, this call proceeds from a malicious and wicked desire to provoke trouble. We know not how the peace has been specially violated or the law outraged in this county to require the interposition of the State's standing army. We have heard of no attempt to resist the Sheriff or his deputies—not even an unusual violation of any—the most trivial—criminal law.

Why, therefore, this call for armed soldiers? Who are the men, and what their characters and their interests in this county, who demand the aid of a partisan militia? What new wickedness is in contemplation in this call to arms, when our section is standing on the very verge of violent disorder, and when good men are successfully using their efforts to prevent disturbance, and bad men are vainly endeavoring to stir up strife? Do these "Justices of the Peace," giving the lie to their official oaths, intend to provoke difficulty and bring on a violation of the peace? Whoever they may be we appeal to them, in the name of peace and good order, to withdraw their useless and dangerous call—to forego their wicked purposes. The people of New Hanover do not require the interposition of the military, and their organization and equipment will be attended with trouble. This movement, we fear, will be accepted as a threat and will be forthwith met by organization on the part of the citizens. Men who organize militia in violation of the laws of the United States, and attempt acts contrary to the Constitution of their own State, must have a care that they are not themselves the victims of their own folly and wickedness.

In behalf of the law-abiding people of New Hanover, then, we ask these men to withdraw their call, and failing in this, we plead to the acting Governor, yes, even to W. W. Holden, not to countenance this attempt to plunge our county into disorder, it may be into bloodshed.

Interest on the State Debt.

We find the following letter in the *Natural Intelligencer*. The writer we take to be the Postmaster at Raleigh. Upon what authority Mr. Miller bases his opinion, we do not know. As a well-wisher of the State and jealous of its honor, we sincerely trust his views may be correct. We are, however, unprepared to endorse them, and cannot publish the letter without expressing our doubts of their correctness. We will not willingly lead our friends into error in regard to our State bonds, even to enhance their value.

We hope the Legislature has made provision for the payment of the interest, and we trust the people will be able to meet the demand, but we do not believe either is the case. We know, independent of the lavish expenditure of money by that body, it pledged the name of the State to several millions more of bonds, which we believe will never be paid, and should not be paid. And we further believe that such legislation has rather a tendency to impair the value of the old debt, than provide for the payment of the interest on it.

The letter is as follows, and was written to a gentleman in Washington City:

RALEIGH, N. C., August 31, 1868.
DEAR SIR: To yours of the 27th instant, I reply with pride and pleasure that our Legislature has provided, by a tax bill, now in process of collection, to carry out the late law for the payment of interest on the State debt in October, 1868, and January, 1869.

I regard the payment of the interest to fall due on these days as certain; also, that all fall due thereafter at any day. There will be no evasion or repudiation of payment by North Carolina, unless the United States shall set the example, which I trust and believe they will never do.

Your advice to your friends has been sound. We see in North Carolina, as in the whole Union appears to be—a state of high political excitement; but if the elections shall be conducted with tolerable fairness, it will, I have no doubt, let the steam off harmlessly.

A. MILLER.

Maine.

The annual State election takes place in Maine to-morrow. Both parties are making a most active and thorough canvass, and a large vote may be expected. Last year a Radical Legislature had made a most odious liquor and constabulary law, which disgusted a very large portion of their party, who showed their disapproval of these measures by remaining from the polls, and although the Democratic vote was less by nearly one thousand than in the two elections, State and Presidential, of 1864, yet the Radical majorities of that year were reduced nearly ten thousand, and that of 1866, by nearly seventeen thousand, as will appear from the following table:

VOTE FOR GOVERNOR.			
Dem.	Rep.	Rep. Mo.	Total Vote.
1864.....	46,409	65,683	112,092
1865.....	31,660	54,430	86,090
1866.....	11,937	69,837	81,774
1867.....	45,920	57,822	103,742

VOTE FOR PRESIDENT.			
Dem.	Rep.	Rep. Mo.	Total Vote.
1864.....	46,988	67,805	114,793

It will be seen that the average Radical majority for the past five years is a little over twenty thousand, and it is from this

stand-point we should compare the returns of the election to-morrow.

We have noticed with much interest the progress of the campaign in Maine, and we are satisfied that much the greater part of the enthusiasm and earnestness has been with the Democrats. Neither the candidates nor the platform of the party are especially popular with the New England Democrats, and their opinions were not consulted in this regard. But on the other hand, the people of Maine have suffered so much from the enormous and unequal taxation of the Government, and have become so disgusted with the corruptions of the Radical party, that it is hoped and expected that the usual majority will be greatly reduced, if not entirely overcome. Democratic speakers have demonstrated to her people how the great industrial interests of Maine have suffered and perished under the burdens of Radical legislation; the ruinous results of Jacobin rule have been brought home to them and they begin to look with favor upon their opponents.

In summing up his considerations upon this election, the Boston Post remarks:

"A world or two in reference to the election in Maine, which takes place next Monday. Last year the Radical majority was 11,706, the year before it was 27,700, in the Democracy made a gain in one year of about 17,000 in a total vote of 100,000. This was the most successful gain ever made in one year. A large part of it was due to the State Constabulary and other laws, which have since been repealed; indeed, but a small portion of it was really attributable to national issues. At the coming election nothing will be done to 'split the miller.' 'But,' said the Emperor, 'I must have it. I wish to extend and beautify my grounds, and your windmill is an eyesore to the Empire.' But, said he, 'my grandfather is buried yonder, and my father is buried here, and this has been the home of my ancestors for generations; I want to live and die here, and I cannot sell it.' The Emperor, getting out of patience, said he would order his men to tear the mill down and take possession of the grounds. Said the miller: 'May I please your Majesty, there are laws in Prussia, and I can sue you.' 'I don't care,' said the Emperor, and went on and tore down the mill. The miller sued him, and the courts decided against the Emperor, and declared that he should rebuild the mill and pay to the last farthing all the miller's expenses. The Emperor bowed his head, and went and rebuilt the mill, and paid all damages. After awhile Frederick the Great was in his grave, and the old miller was gone; but by and by another miller was there, and another Emperor was on the throne. The miller wrote to his reigning Majesty, and said: 'May I please your Majesty, so many years ago your grandfather had refused to sell his windmill and homestead to him, but said he, 'I am poor, and need the money, and I will sell, and hope the price may be such as to please your Majesty.' I must have \$5,000. The Emperor said: 'I will give you a royal order on the Prussian Treasury, and I can sue you.' 'I am sorry for it, you are willing to sell your windmill for \$5,000. The windmill cannot be sold. It belongs to Prussian history. Enclosed find my check for \$5,000. Yours, respectfully.' And the name of the great seal of the Emperor was affixed.

Daily Journal, 13th.

Outrage Upon a Colored Democrat.

The President of the Democratic Club in this city yesterday received a letter from a gentleman at Council's Bluffs, Bladen county, alluding to an outrage perpetrated by Union League negroes upon Henry Freeman, a colored Democrat, at that place on Thursday night last. Freeman himself came to the city yesterday and bore testimony to the fact and exhibited the marks of violence upon his person. It appears that he came down from Fayetteville, where he had been speaking, on Thursday last to Council's Bluffs for the purpose of speaking there the next day and fulfilling some other appointments in the county. That night he was lodged in the dining room of the house of a gentleman, with a trusted servant. About 11 o'clock he was aroused by a gang of negroes who seized upon his throat to prevent any cries, and proceeded to drag him out through the woods for about a mile and a half, all the time nearly choking him to death. They then halted, and after cursing him repeatedly, they told him of their knowledge of his intention to speak and swore he should not do it. They then stripped him of his coat and shirt, tied him up by his hands, and proceeded to belabor him most unmercifully with whips, sticks and poles, all the while standing with guns at his head and threatening to shoot him should he make the least noise. He was at last permitted to return, with a final threat that they would shoot him if he attempted to speak. The crowd numbered about twenty, all well armed. The back of their victim is in a most horribly bruised and bloody condition.

It is a satisfaction to know that some of these scoundrels are known and efforts are being made to trace out the others. They will be arrested and confronted with the law. It is the determination of our friends to have the scoundrels punished to the utmost extent the law will permit. Let others take warning and beware.

The Electoral Ticket.

The State and District Electoral ticket is now complete. It is one of which the party may be proud, and from which it will receive much aid, from the ability and energy of the gentlemen who compose it. We trust they will soon enter upon a thorough canvass, and spare no effort to secure their election, and the vote of North Carolina for SEYMOUR and BLAIR. The Democratic party of the United States has organized for victory. Its platform and candidates are emblazoned upon the escutcheons of thirty-seven sovereign States, and we believe that, as sure as the stars of November will come, the people of this country, disenthralled and free from the tyranny which has so long oppressed them, will, with one voice, render thanks to Heaven for their deliverance.

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